

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 and 6-12 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 6 and 9 are amended and claim 5 is canceled. No new matter is added. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claim 5 contains allowable subject matter.

Claims 1-4 and 6-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2006/0162316 (Tanaka et al.) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0150366 (Ferrall et al.). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 is amended to incorporate the allowable features of claim 5. Accordingly, independent claim 1 and claims 2-4 and 6-8 dependent therefrom distinguish over Tanaka et al. and Ferrall et al.

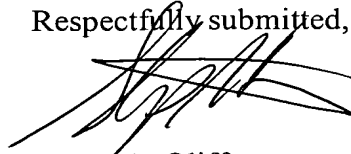
Independent claim 9 is also amended to incorporate the allowable features of claim 5. Accordingly, for similar reasons, independent claim 9 and claims 10-12 dependent therefrom also distinguish over Tanaka et al. and Ferrall et al.

For the foregoing reasons, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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